The Lions' Pride

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Veterans Day Service Salutes Actions of All Servicemen

By John Hall

Editor-In-Chief &

Layout Editor

On Friday, Nov. 11, 2018, the Saint Leo community gathered at the lion statue between Kirk Hall and The School of Business, in recognition for Veteran's Day. The ceremony which is held every year continues to support the Veterans in and around the Saint Leo community while honoring the sacrifices of those that fought and died around us.

The event began promptly at 10:30 a.m. as faculty and staff gathered and stood proudly for the national anthem. Bringing brief yet strong remarks was University president Dr. Jeffrey Senese, who reiterated the importance of the observance of Veterans Day while recounting the rich history the University has had in partnership with the armed forces. Senese recalled that in 1974 Saint Leo responded to the armed service request to offer degree programs on military bases.

Dr. David Persky acted as moderator for the service, and Father Kyle Smith offered up a prayer covering the lives of all past and current serving members of the armed forces and their families. Notable in the audience were several of the veteran students currently studying on campus, among the group was alumni and former ROTC recruit Gregory T. Nobles 18'.

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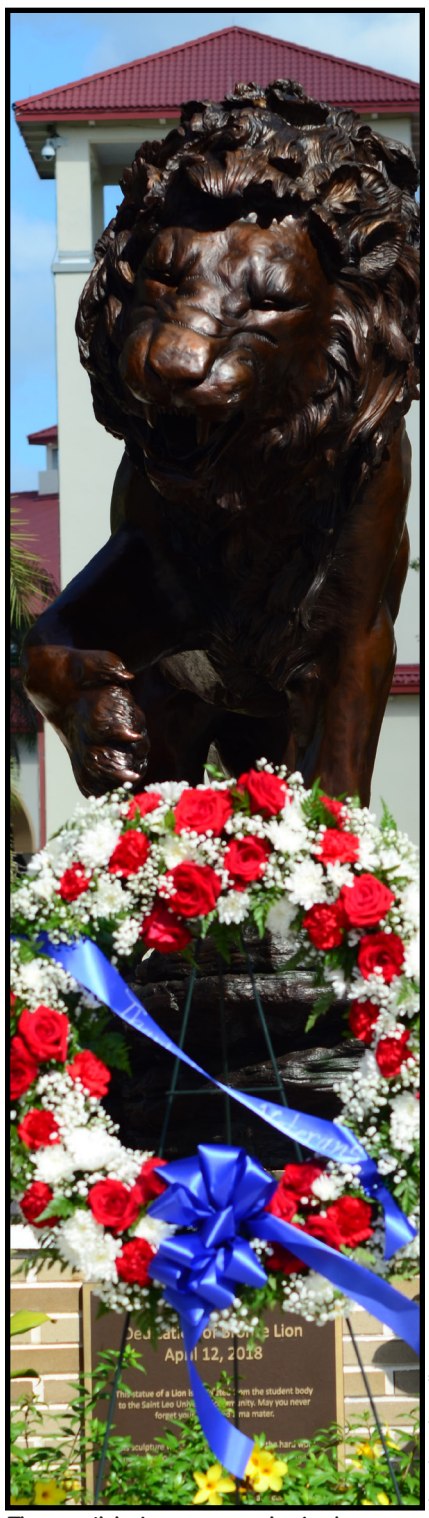


Photo by: John Hall

The wreath laying ceremony having been conducted at the Lion Statue emboldens Saint Leo's commitment to the Armed Forces.

Nobles said of his decision to return to University Campus on the day, "My first reason for attending was to witness the SLU ROTC Color Guard team and the wreath setting. My main priority is always people, especially those that I know on a personal basis. Following that was to sit in on and listen to the message directed towards veterans so that I can better relate to it as I go further in my military career."

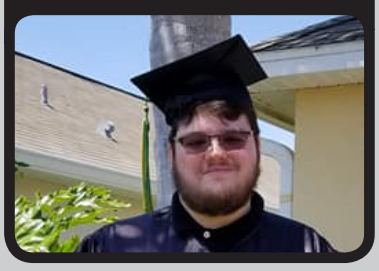
Since graduating, Nobles said he has committed himself to a four-year active duty contract with the U.S. Army. Within he is hoping to gain managerial and leadership experience, after which possibly transferring into the private sector.

Active duty requires self-sacrifice, a spirit of excellence and a sense of purpose. Nobles has come to understand this and says, "Everyone has their own reason for joining the military. Mine is to understand what it means and feels to serve in the military and what impact it has on one's own life and others while in and out of the organization."

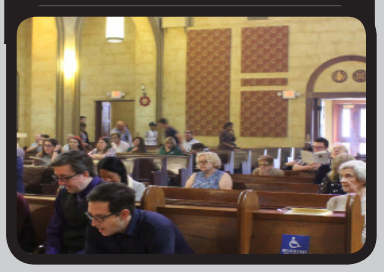
Recognizing the significant impact that Saint Leo's ROTC program has had on his life, Nobles says, "I fully intend on stopping by the SLU ROTC program whenever I am home from the military in order to pass on my knowledge and continue to set an excellent,

Inside This Week

Saint Leo Grad Gets Job after Re-branding



Mass of Saint Leo



Top 10 Hallmark Christams Movies

Bonding Over Tees

Women's Basketball

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Bonding Over Tees

By Camila Silva

Lions Share Manager

On Friday, Nov. 9, The Campus Activities Board, hosted the event "Green Tee Shirts." During this event, students could personalize T-shirts with their names and graduation year. The event was held in the SSC Lobby from 12 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Maurqise McGill, a middle school education major with a focus in English, is also CAB assistant responsible for special events. When asked why the organization was hosting the event, and what the event meant to him, he stated, "The CAB Green Tee Shirts for me, personally, is the way to show the students that I understand that they love to personalize things, to put their name on things and I also love free shirts. Who doesn't love a free shirt?"

McGill added, "Also, it definitely shows our school spirit because it has our school colors, it represents us, it brings people together. Even though the line is long, it brings people together, people are talking to each other. I see people cracking jokes [with each other]. To me, it is more a way of bringing people together."

Scores of students came to participate in the event and

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Phto by: Camila Silva

Students were in the dark about the final design of the T-Shirts and waited patiently to see what they would look like.

Campus News

Mass of Saint Leo Fostered School Spirit

By Cameron Wallace
Contributing Writer

On Nov. 8, 2018, the mass for the Feast of Saint Leo the Great was held on University Campus at Saint Leo Abbey. Saint Leo the Great, also known as Pope Leo the first, was a fifth-century Roman aristocrat who was considered to be "undoubtedly one of the most important in the Church's history."

The service started at 10 a.m. and lasted for just longer than one hour. When asked about the service, Fr. Kyle Smith stated that the actual feast day for Saint Leo the Great is Nov. 10, but to encourage participation from staff, faculty, administration and the students, it was moved to Nov. 8.

When asked about potential attendance Kyle said that he didn't have an exact number to expect, but they had printed "roughly 100 programs" so Campus Ministry expected attendance would be around 100 people.

The homily of the service was based on the legacy of Saint Leo the Great and how we all as students of Saint Leo University can strive to be life changers and advocates in our various communities just as he was.

Near the end of the service, Saint Leo University president, Dr. Jeffrey Senese also gave a brief speech on the life and legacy of Saint Leo the Great and also encouraged students to be more like him in their daily lives.

The service was well attended by the wider Saint Leo Community, including faculty, staff and students, along with a number of guests from outside of the university. The service was also graced by many clergy members, including Saint Leo's very own, Fr. Kyle Smith, who expressed that he was impressed by the attendance for the service when asked post service.

While exiting the abbey, a number of students were asked how their experiences were at the service, and their responses were mostly similar, reporting that they enjoyed the service and thought it was a good opportunity.

When Campus Activities Board Assistant, Dana Powers-Young-Ramos, was asked her impression of the service and its observance as a whole Ramos stated, "It was a great service and a great opportunity for students to learn about who the school was named after."

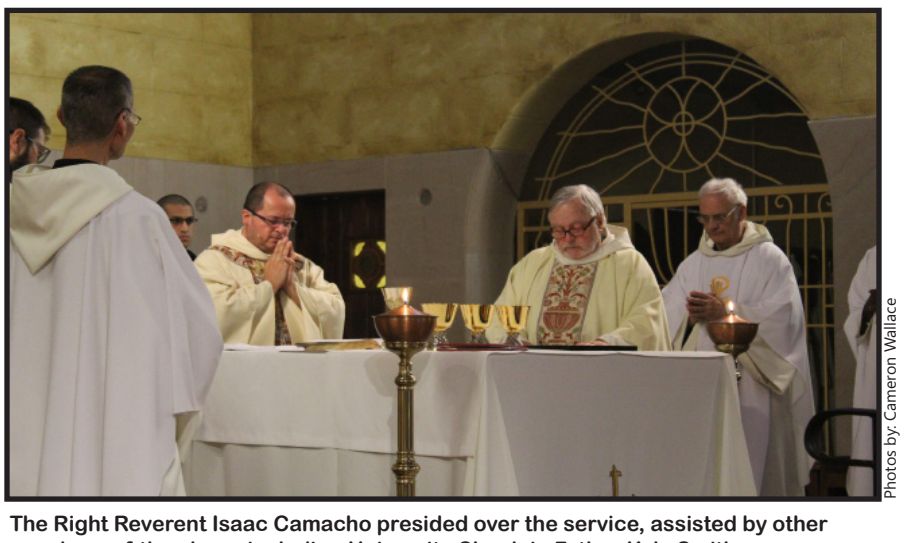
Ramos also went on to speak about her involvement in Campus Ministry, explaining her Roman Catholic background and the fact that she attends mass as often as she possibly can.

Light refreshments were provided after the service, giving the attendees the opportunity to commune one final time, sharing their thoughts with an emboldened connection to University Campus.

For more photos on Mass of The Feast of Saint Leo and other events on campus, follow our Facebook page:
The Lions' Pride Media Group

Attendees were able to commune with one another after the service, fostering a deeper sense of community.

The service was well attended, not only by members of the Saint Leo Community but members from the surrounding city that hold the observance as sacred.



Photos by: Cameron Wallace

The Right Reverent Isaac Camacho presided over the service, assisted by other members of the clergy including University Chaplain Father Kyle Smith.

Photos by: Cameron Wallace

The Mass for the Feast of Saint Leo was solemn, drawing scores of attendees according to the organizers in Campus Ministry. The service allowed those unfamiliar with Saint Leo the Great the opportunity to become acquainted with the Pope whose name the University is named after.

Campus News

Veterans Day Cont'd

Continued from Page 1

professional leadership example for the aspiring officers. My impact will become greater over time."

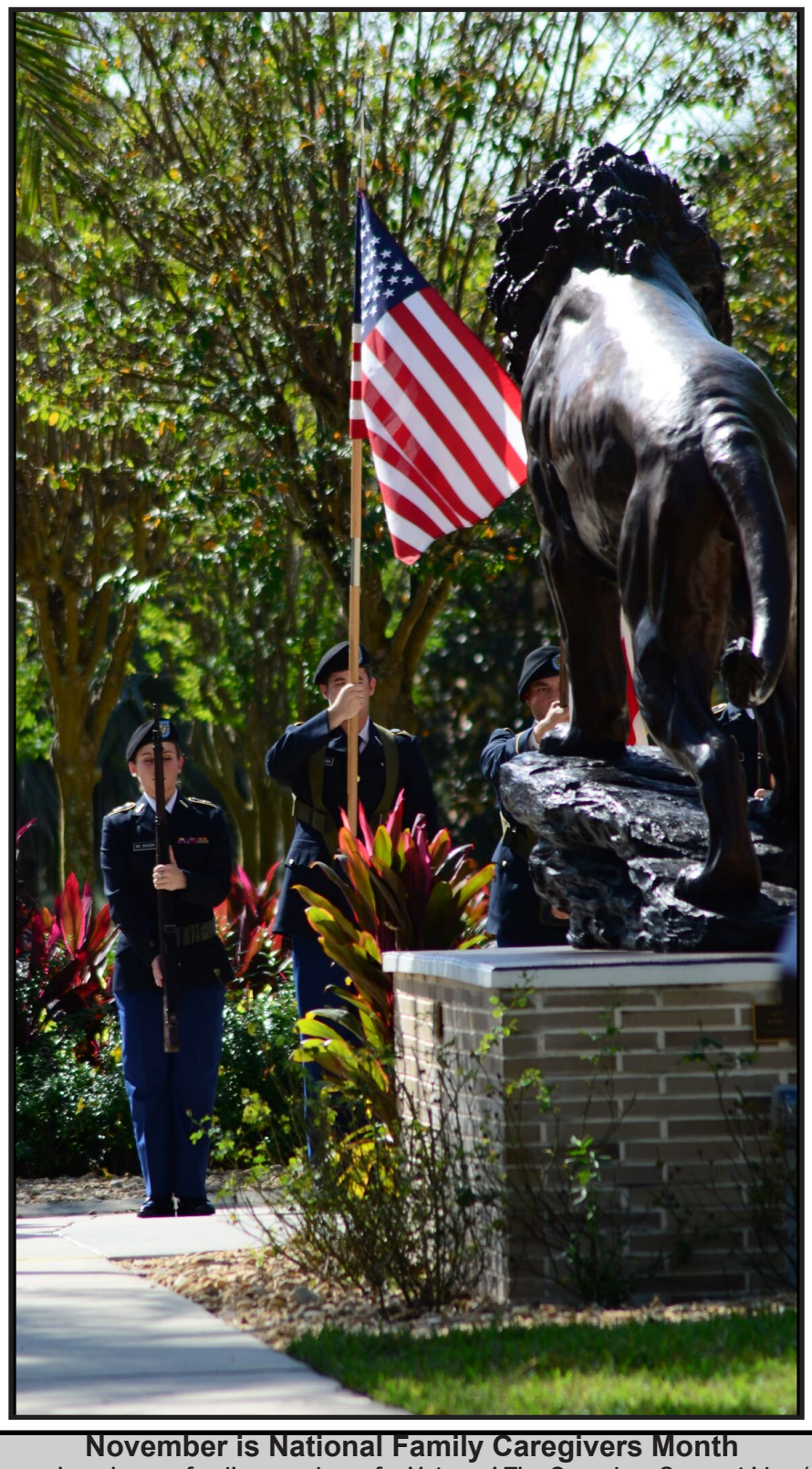
Assistant Vice President for Military Affairs Col. Pamela Martis reflecting on the 100 year anniversary since the end of World War gave her thoughts on this Veterans Day.

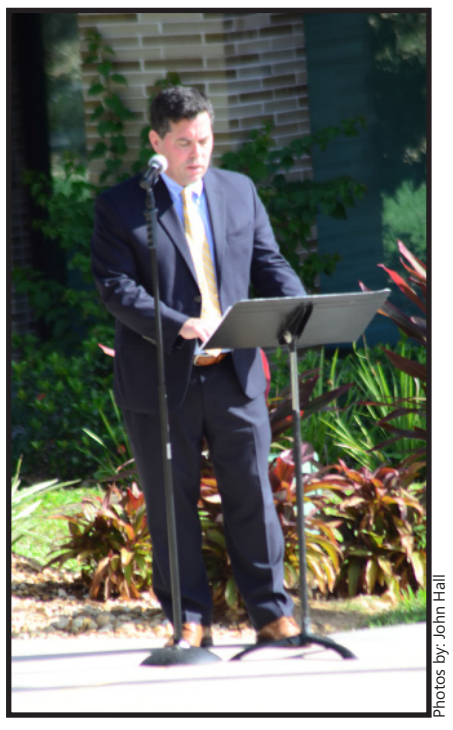
Col. Martis stated, "As we celebrate Veterans Day, the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI and the 243rd Birthday of the Marine Corps, let us as individuals and as a Nation never forget the service and sacrifice of those who have worn the uniform to defend the freedoms we hold dear as Americans. For Veterans, it is an honor to have served."

Col. Martis pointed out that the entire month of November was dedicated to Veterans Awareness.

In a spirit of gratitude, Martis encourages the community to, "Keep those currently serving safe and thank them for what they do for all of us. A simple Thank you means a lot--especially to our Vietnam era Veterans who did not receive that thanks from a grateful Nation at the time of their Service."

"As years pass and the relationship between the Saint Leo community and The Armed Forces has grown exponentially, The Saint Leo Community will continue to be grateful for the service of all men and women that serve our country bravely.





Photos by: John Hall

November is National Family Caregivers Month

The VA thanks, celebrates and honors each and every family caregiver of a Veteran! The Caregiver Support Line (CSL) is just one of the many ways that the VA supports and celebrates family caregivers. The CSL is only a toll-free call away at 1-855-260-3274. Licensed social workers are staffed in order to provide family caregivers with resources, support or simply just someone to talk with.

Bonding Cont'd

Continued from Page 1

showed their school spirit. One of these students was Darien Diehl, a junior majoring in accounting. When Diehl was asked why she was attending the event, she responded, "I came to get a T-shirt today because I thought it would be cool and I'd like to represent our school more, since I don't have much apparel. I feel that the shirts represent who we are and [extends to] as far as when we graduate."

Diehl continued, "I feel that these shirts allow us to start to get to know each other better by seeing representing our graduating class which can further allow us to bond with each other better."

A lot of students responded similarly to Diehl, showing interest in representing our school spirit. Hildred Teresias, a sophomore majoring in criminal justice, is another example of a student who wanted to show their school spirit by getting a T-shirt with her name and graduation year on.

A common concern the students had was what the shirts would look like, given the only information disseminated was to write their names and graduation year. When the first shirt was completed, the satisfaction in the students' eyes was teeming, as the shirts satisfied their curious minds. The attendees began to talk amongst themselves about how nice the shirts looked, and how soft the fabric was.

Overall, each participant left pleased with the shirts they received and were ready to show off their school spirit while getting to know more people in their graduating class.

Photo Provided by: Saint Leo Senate

The senators are beginning to settle into their roles, and are eager to serve the student body of the University.

Lifestyle

Black Friday Deals

By Kendjana Adolphe
Contributing Writer

The Thanksgiving holiday is nearby and who thinks of Thanksgiving break without also thinking of Black Friday? This year Black Friday will be Nov. 23, but based on previous Black Fridays, it might start earlier; some stores start selling on the day of Thanksgiving and extend throughout the Black Friday weekend. Some places such as Walmart, Best Buy and Target already released their ads for the upcoming Black Friday sales.

For this exciting event, Walmart's doors will be open at 6 p.m. Thanksgiving night, and the online sale will start Wednesday, Nov. 21, at 10 p.m. The sales prices will be available all day Friday so, get ready to enjoy some great deals! The Black Friday ads for Walmart depict great offers on electronics, such as up to $400 gifts card deal on the new iPhones. Also, save $80 on the iPad (sixth generation); the new price for Black Friday is $249. The Samsung Galaxy Tab E 9.6 can be found for only $129. Looking to get a new laptop? Walmart has the best prices this year:

-HP Stream 11 Notebook- $159

-Samsung Chromebook 3- $99

-RCA Cambio 2-in-1 Notebook/ Tablet- $89

More of a gamer? Get the Xbox one X 1TB Console for $399 and save up to a $100; the Xbox one controller will be sold for $39.

Photo credit: @slickdeals

Macys will open their doors for the Black Friday sales event Thanksgiving day at 5 p.m. and close Friday at 2 a.m. The doors will reopen four hours later at 6 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Target is one of the first destinations during Black Friday. And once again, this retailer is ready to amaze their customers. With the announcement of free two-day shipping for all orders over the holiday season, Target is making everyone happy! Order online between Nov. 1 and Dec. 22 to enjoy this offer. The Target ad for Black Friday shows big discounts on products in every department of the store. The store will open its doors Thanksgiving night, Nov. 22 from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. It will reopen the following day at 7 a.m.

Target offers some hot deals; get the Element 55" Smart 4K UHD TV for only $199 or the Samsung 65" 4K HDR UHD Smart TV for $799. Target also has great gift card deals on the new iPhone; you can get the iPhone XS or iPhone XS Max with a $250 Target gift card. On Black Friday, people will be able to buy a Google Pixel 3 or Pixel 3 XL with a $200 activated Target gift card. Always wanted to have an Amazon echo and Alexa device? It's the right time to get one for only $69 at Target!

Macy's Black Friday ad was 40-pages long because they have discounts in every department of the store! They will open Thanksgiving Day at 5 p.m. and close Friday at 2 a.m. Doors will reopen four hours later at 6 a.m. until two in the afternoon.

Enjoy 20 percent plus an extra 20 percent off on items such as blenders, juicers, espresso machines and cutlery sets. Macy's is offering 65 percent off on holiday ornaments and dinnerware, let's celebrate Christmas beautifully! Macy's also has discounts on bedding essentials, up to 70 percent off! Get a contour memory foam pillow for only $17.99 or a faux fur throw for $35.99. Macy's offers great deals on jewelry, clothes and shoes as well.

The 52 page-long ads of Best Buy was filled with premium electronics. With their partnership with Amazon, Best Buy will be selling a wide selection of Amazon Fire TV Edition Smart TVs. Also, save $200 on the Toshiba 43-inch LED 2160 Smart 4K UHD TV with HDR Fire TV edition, spend only $129.99 on this special. Let's keep in mind that this deal is in-store only!

Black Friday at Best Buy will start Thanksgiving night at 5 p.m. and last until 1 a.m. It will extend to the following day, starting at 8 a.m. Deals are already posted online until Black Friday for those who cannot wait!

The Apple MacBook Air- 13.3" Display can be found at $799.99 at Best Buy and the Apple-21.5" iMac at $899.99. Get the best out of the holiday and save $200 on both of these items. Best Buy also has great discounts on soundbar systems:

-LG – 2.1-Channel 300W Soundbar System with Wireless Subwoofer-$119.99 (save $160)

-Samsung – 2.1-Channel 300W Soundbar System with 6-1/2″ Wireless Subwoofer-$139.99 (save $140)

-Sony – 2.1-Channel Soundbar System with Wireless Subwoofer and Digital-$148.99 (save $131)

-Samsung – 5.1-Channel Soundbar System with 6-1/2″ Wireless Subwoofer and Digital-$279.99 (save $220)

Amazon is also on the run for Black Friday! They announced that their Black Friday week sale starts Nov. 17. And yes, Amazon announced free shipping to EVERYONE during the holiday season. Some of the hottest deals:

-32-inch 720p TV for $69.99

-49-inch 4k TV for $159.99

-Amazon Echo Dot for $29.99

-Fire HD 8 for $49.99

-Fire HD 10 for $39.99

Also, Amazon has released a new version of Kindle Paperwhite; Thinner and waterproof now, it has twice the storage. Get it for $129.99 starting Nov. 7.

Now, how can you tell if you're ready for the Black Friday? Here is a checklist of how to get ready for this big occasion:

-Create a budget. It is necessary to figure out in advance what you can afford before jumping into making a list of desired items.

-Make your list. Now that a price for expenses is set, figure out how you want to spend that money.

-Buy gift cards. Save money and get rewards by purchasing gift cards ahead of time if you know

Continued on Page 8

The Lions' Pride Weekly Word Search: Thanksgiving

Harvest Hunt

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THANKSGIVING
TURKEY

Local

Six-Month Long Job Search Finally Pays Off

By Randawnique Coakley
Managing Editor &
Worldly Education Editor

Over the course of the academic year, The Lions' Pride will highlight its graduates in a series of articles. The articles will update and inform the community on life after graduation.

A four-month search for a job following graduation with no leads seems like a typical recent college graduate's experience. This was the situation faced by one of Saint Leo's recent graduates, Brian Cerosky, a former history major.

Cerosky is currently employed as a Creative Production Artist with Amalie Oil Company (The name holders of Amalie Arena). Cerosky's job entails proofreading, editing and writing consumer labels for their motor oils. After an intense six-month search for a job, he was able to land this job in an unexpected field only after changing his prospects and rebranding himself.

Originally, Cerosky was seeking a job as a teacher; however, he found it difficult to tap into the field.

"I was planning on becoming a teacher, and I searched for four months incapable of finding anything solid in that field. I decided to rebrand myself in mid to late June when prospects were looking bleak teaching wise. I simply examined myself and my skills in terms of what I'm capable of and went with what made the most sense, that being writing," said Cerosky.

He landed this job in September just two to three months after opening up to new job opportunities and re-branding himself. This brought up his job search total to more than six months. Cerosky began to describe the experience of the lengthy job search and what it took out of him to find a job.

"Finding a job is, simply put, soul-draining. There are a lot of ups and downs emotionally when it comes to job seeking, one week you have two or three interviews you believe you nailed, and the next you get absolutely nothing, no call backs, no follow-ups, nothing," stated Cerosky.

He mentioned key lessons he learned while searching for a job that he would like students to know.

"The key I suppose is to stay determined and always seek to do something that may be a bit outside your comfort zone. If your first few options fail, don't be afraid to rebrand yourself and sell yourself to hiring managers in other areas you otherwise couldn't see yourself doing, you might just get the job."

He mentioned what helps in college to do what he was able to do with re-branding himself.

"My major (history) allowed me to brand myself as an analyst, writer and researcher devoted to facts and presenting them in a way that was compelling and persuasive. The newspaper helped me with this as well. Anyone seeking to land a job after college as any sort of writer, editor or anything of the sort should look to work for the newspaper, it will take you far," said Cerosky.

He talked about what helped him for his job search and what advice he would give, but he also talks about one of his biggest regrets involving the job search as well; he felt that he didn't fully prepare for his job search before graduation.

"I regret taking as much time off as I did and I regret the sheer amount of slacking I did. You really need to hit all the job sites and postings immediately after graduation: Indeed, ZipRecruiter, Glassdoor, LinkedIn, Monster and more," said Cerosky. "You should have a resume completed and up to date far before you graduate. Do not wait. You need to be aggressive, quick and tenacious. Capitalism waits for none and second chances are few and far between."

He advises seniors in college to make sure they prepare for job-search after college by getting accustomed to interviewing and by starting to craft their resume, but he also talked about a feeling faced by a lot of recent college graduates.

"My anxiety is through the roof considering now I would have to pay back what I owed, and I'm not sure how I'm going to do that yet. If you don't have debt coming out of college, consider yourself very lucky and be humble."

Nevertheless, his goal right now is to do his best at this current company and really show himself as a hard-working employee.

"I want to do well in my company, so, for now, my career goals will be completing my work to the best of my ability and skill on time. I want to show up every day early, eager, and awake. I want to feel like I'm needed," said Cerosky. "Down the line, I would like to lead my own writing and editing team. My current position will obviously help out as many of them can be achieved by simply having any job. Start out small and work your way up."

Photo provided by Brian Cerosky

Cerosky graduated Saint Leo with a degree in history, and he was able to use his work for The Lions' Pride to land a job.

Finally, Cerosky mentioned what he wished he knew while he was in college, such as seizing the moment.

"I wish I knew just how much could change in just 3-4 years when attending University. I wish I knew how fast it would go, and how I'd be wishing I could go back and do it all over again. I wish I knew how much your life will change after college. Enjoy your time while you still can. It sounds cliche, but I mean it."

Advice for Seniors

"For seniors, always look at the bright side of every situation; don't let the negatives overpower you. You'll most likely find yourself in a dark place, maybe your deepest rut in your life up to this point, but realize that if you try your heart out at interviewing and crafting your resume, you'll eventually land something worth getting out of bed for and you'll be fine."

Advice for Freshman

"For freshmen, same applies, but make sure you show up to class and perform your absolute best. Become passionate about your field of study, the University and your work. Also, learn to let loose sometimes and unwind, responsibly, I might add. Also, first impressions are everything and consistency is key."

Arts & Entertainment

Top 10 Hallmark Christmas Movies

By Victoria E. Calvillo
Contributing Writer

These synopses were put together with the help of information from the official Hallmark Channel website which includes trailers, plot descriptions, behind the scenes and much other extra information on each film.

1. *Crown for Christmas*

Danica McKellar and Rupert Penry-Jones team up in Hallmark's original Christmas film, "Crown For Christmas." McKellar portrays Allie, a recently unemployed New York City woman, who used to work for a fancy hotel maid service. To help rush the process of her getting another job, she goes to a temp agency, hoping to find work sooner than later. Her temp agency assigns her as a governess to a young girl, who happens to be the daughter of a very powerful family in Europe. After moving into the family's castle, she learns that the young girl, Theodora, is a princess. She also discovers that Penry-Jones' character is the King of Winshire. As a forewarning, the king tells Allie that Theodora acts out against authority figures since the death of her mother. However, the opposite occurs, and the princess and governess get along right away, and they are not the only ones who hit it off. Allie and Maximillian hit off their relationship with sparks, igniting a could-be relationship. The only problem is that there is also another woman in the picture who is lined up to marry him. Who will Maximillian choose? Allie, the poor governess who has a good relationship with his daughter? Or Countess Celia, who comes from the same economic class and understand his royal issues?

2. *Christmas Getaway*

"Christmas Getaway" stars Bridget Regan and Travis Van Winkle, in this romantic Christmas film they play each other's love interest. Regan's character, Emory Blake, recently booked a Christmas getaway with her boyfriend. However, when they break up unexpectantly, she finds herself going on the vacation alone. Coincidently, Winkle's character, Scott Hays, also has the same trip location planned at the same time. Upon arrival, they realize that the hotel has double-booked the pair, causing conflict. Scott also happens to be traveling with his daughter and mother, as he is a widower. Even though this begins as a hassle for Emory, as she went on the vacation to relax and take the time to write, she finds herself enjoying the company of the trio. She especially begins to like the company of Scott; their relationship soon becoming a blossoming possibility of a new romance.

Photo by @VisitGraceland

"Christmas at Graceland" premieres Saturday, Nov. 17, at 8 p.m./7c, part of Countdown to Christmas, only on the Hallmarck channel.

3. *Christmas at Holly Lodge*

Alison Sweeney stars in the Christmas film, "Christmas At Holly Lodge." She portrays Sophie Bennett, Holly Lodge owner who is determined to keep her lodge in business. Sophie runs into a complication when Evan Hunter, portrayed by actor Jordan Bridges, is sent by a large and important developer who is out to invest in the lodge for reasons not beneficial to Sophie. He goes to Holly Lodge to evaluate the value of the property and report back to his upper authorities. However, he instantly sparks a relationship with Sophie, causing conflict for both parties. Sophie must convince Evan that the lodge is not investment worthy, and he must resist the urge to let his feelings get in the way of reporting back information about the lodge. Will they let this complication get in the way of their budding love?

4. *Enchanted Christmas*

What is more romantic than two love interests who are real-life husband and wife? Nothing! Carlos PenaVega and Alexa Penavega play in the Hallmark original film, "Enchanted Christmas." The film portrays Laura Trudeau, Mrs. PenaVega, as an interior designer who returns to her hometown in Utah to renovate an old hotel. She is renovating the hotel for the annual Christmas Eve show, which is a big deal for the locals. The Christmas Eve show is run by Ricardo Archuleta, Mr. Penavega, who also happens to have a romantic history with Laura. Laura and Ricardo not only used-to-be boyfriend and girlfriend but dance partners as well.
Throughout the film, Laura has to juggle her complicated feelings for Ricardo, family drama and her busy career schedule.

5. *A Royal Christmas*

Lacey Chabert plays Emily Corrigan in "A Royal Christmas," alongside Stephen Hagan, portraying Prince Leopold. Emily is a middle-class worker from Philadelphia. Emily is very proud of where she comes from; she works as a seamstress at her family's local business and loves her life. She has a boyfriend and is in love with him, seeing them having a beautiful life together in their small town. However, all is derailed when Leo reveals he is actually a Prince, next in line to take the throne. He is Prince Leo from Cordinia, a small country located in Europe. Emily and Leo decide to travel to Cordinia to introduce her to the family. Even though Leo is in love, his mother is not thrilled that he is dating a working-class woman. Because of this disappointment, Queen Isadora does everything in her power to make it known to Emily she is not welcome into the family, all along secretly wanting Leo to get back with his ex-girlfriend, Duchess Natasha. During all of the negativity toward her from the Queen, Emily finds comfort in the castle's cleaning and service staff, as they welcome her with open arms. Will Emily let the pressure of not fitting in with the Royals get in the way of her relationship with Leo? Or will she get through and show

Photo by @hallmarkchannel

"Christmas in Love" aired Saturday, Nov. 10, as part of the Countdown to Christmas; it stars Brooke D'Orsay and Daniel Lissing.

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her possible future mother-in-law that she deserves to be with the prince?

6. *Sleigh Bells Ring*

Erin Cahill plays Pauline with co-star David Alpay, who plays Alex, in the Christmas movie, "Sleigh Bells Ring." Pauline is a recently divorced, single mother who is having trouble getting into the Christmas spirit. Things start to turn around, though, when she begins to help plan out her town's Christmas parade and comes across a magical sleigh. The sleigh seems to make magical things happen, including connecting Pauline with a woodworker in town. Alex, the woodworker, becomes Pauline's happiness for the holidays and helps her get out of the funk of not being in the Christmas spirit.

7. *A Wish for Christmas*

"A Wish for Christmas" stars Lacey Chabert and Paul Greene, a drama-filled Christmas movie. Lacey Chabert plays Sara Shaw, a shy and innovative woman who doesn't like a lot of attention on her. However, when an important idea for a Christmas event is stolen, she can't stay quiet anymore. In the beginning, she wants to gain the courage to speak her mind. At a Christmas special, she meets Santa, and he asks her if she could wish for anything, what would it be? She tells him she would wish for courage and not to let others treat her like a pushover anymore. Santa decides to grant Sara her wish, but she only has two full days with her new-found courage. Throughout the film, Sara learns how to speak up for herself and get into the Christmas spirit.

8. *Christmas List*

Hallmark original film, "Christmas List" is based on a novel called "The Christmas Bucket List," written by Ella Fairlie. The film depicts Alicia Witt as Isobel, a Christmas lover who dreams of the perfect Christmas season with her boyfriend. Isobel creates a Christmas bucket list full of classic traditions based off a list she finds from when she was younger of Christmas things she wanted to do. Her boyfriend, however, seems to be uninterested and is not there for her. Since she never got to do them when she was younger, she decides to put the list into action finally even if her boyfriend won't. She starts her list that includes things such as making a gingerbread house, spending the holidays in a snow-covered cottage, riding a carousel, ice skating, singing carols, getting a picture with Santa and getting a real tree to decorate. When picking out a tree, she meets Jamie, played by Gabriel Hogan. During their first encounter, they argue about who picked the tree out first and who will get to take it home. Even though their first encounter was not all smiles, she is later on tempted with a possibility of a new romance with Jamie.

9. *The Nine Lives of Christmas*

Calling all cat lovers! "The Nine Lives of Christmas" includes two lonely people who come together because of their love of felines. Zachary Stone is a bachelor who is content with his life without love, mostly because he doesn't believe in true love or commitment to a love interest. This turns around when he takes in a tabby cat whose name is Ambrose. The bond he creates with him makes him rethink his philosophy of being alone. He faces his biggest temptation of toss his bachelor status to the curb when he meets veterinary student and fellow animal lover, Marilee. Marilee begins to teach Zachary how to care for his new furry friend, creating a great deal of chemistry between the two. Will Zachary give into his feelings for Marilee or let his comfort of the bachelor life win?

10. *Christmas Everlasting*

A promising new original Hallmark movie is coming Thanksgiving weekend called, "Christmas Everlasting." The film stars Tatyana Ali, Dondre T. Whitfield, Dennis Haysbert and Patti LaBelle. The film depicts Lucy beginning her Christmas season with the best news she has ever gotten; she has been chosen to become a partner at her law firm, which she has dreamt about many times. However, she also gets the worse news she could have thought of: her sister who has special needs has passed away, and she now needs to return home to put her sister to rest. Lucy dreads returning home especially since she did not take her sister's last phone call before she passed away. While at home, Lucy runs into her old high school boyfriend, Peter, portrayed by Whitfield. Old feelings start to arise with this run in with Peter, but she tries to stay on task with dealing with her sister's will requests. One of the requests is that Lucy stays in the family home for one month in order for her to inherit the property. Throughout the film, Lucy struggles with grief, an old flame, and her new job. More information can be found on Hallmark's official site.

Countdown to Christmas

There are new original Hallmark movies premiering every weekend up until the day of Christmas. On Christmas night, there will be a two-hour special event of one of Hallmark's newest films. The last film will premiere Dec. 29, closing out 2018's Countdown to Christmas. The entire schedule is updated in real time and can be accessed on the official Hallmark Channel website. All of these premieres air at 8 p.m./7c.

December 1
"Christmas in Evergreen: Letters to Santa"

December 2
"Majestic Christmas"

December 8
"Homegrown Christmas"

December 9
"Christmas Wonderland"

December 15
"A Gingerbread Romance"

December 16
"Entertaining Christmas"

December 22
"Jingle Around the Clock"

December 23
"Christmas Made to Order"

December 25
Two-Hour Special Event:
"When Calls the Heart"

December 29
"A Midnight Kiss"

Sports

Women's Basketball Takes the Court

Vincent Pensabene
Sports Editor

The Saint Leo women's basketball program has officially kicked off their season and is looking to piece together the growth of the program. This is the second season that head coach Anthony Circotti is coaching the Lions and the continuation of the building blocks that were in place from last season will make this team better.

The women's basketball team consists of players from all over the world and is currently one of the younger teams at Saint Leo with only two juniors and one senior. The rest of the team are players that coach Circotti has recruited and that is a huge factor. This gives the coaching staff the opportunity to implement their culture for the team for all four years the players will be there for.

"While we are young, we are trying to create a long-term culture commitment in a positive and empowering way," coach Circotti said. "We not only have a young group, we have a passionate and hungry group. We recruit nationwide and internationally, seeking the best fit for our growing program."

The team doesn't get the chance to have a very long offseason as it begins late Spring semester after the recruitment period ends, but the coaching staff has a precise way of keeping the players healthy both physically and mentally.

"[The coaching staff] sends out summer workouts in hopes that the ladies follow through on our expectations. We include weightlifting programs, conditioning programs and shooting programs for them to use as reference materials. The ladies also receive a summer book that is leadership based. We connect upon return to Saint Leo about the book and its significance."

The focus on leadership is something that coach Circotti seems keyed in on. He understands that there is more to college athletics than just wins and losses, he expects the team to strive to get better every time a student-athlete steps on the court or inside of a classroom.

The team opened up with a trip to New York to take on the West Point and have an exhibition game against the Army Black Knights. This was more than just a tune-up for the beginning of the regular season for the team, it was an opportunity to an up close and personal chance to see how the cadets operate.

"The competition, speed, strength, and professionalism was all exhilarating. We were pushed to our limits and tested across the board," coach Circotti added. "We were humbled by the intestinal fortitude of the cadets and learned a whole new level of appreciation for our military while self-reflecting ourselves."

The team opened up with the Gulf South/Sunshine State Conference Challenge on Nov 9th and 10th. The Lions opened up their season with a 62-43 victory over the Shorter Hawks. That followed with a 71-50 loss against the Lee Flames. The women play again at home on Nov 17 against the Montevallo Falcons at 12 p.m. at the Marion Bowman Activities Center for the Campers Reunion/Salute to Service game.

"We are very excited for 2018-19! We have a lot of youthful heart and soul. Please be patient with our ebbs and flows as we will always leave everything we got on the court. We look forward to seeing a lot of fans, faculty, staff and students at the Bowman this season."

Photos courtesy of saintleolions.com

Sophomore Alani Gallagher led the team in scoring with 14 points in a loss to Lee in the GSC/SSC finale.

Photos courtesy of @saintleowbb

Junior Gina Brierley took control of the offense while calling plays in the season opener.

Upcoming Games Week Ending

11/16/18 - 11/22/18

Cross Country

11/17- at NCAA South Region Championship 8 a.m.

Women's Golf

11/5- at Rollins Legends Invitational
11/6- at Rollins Legends Invitational

Men's Basketball

11/16- vs Auburn-Montgomery 7:30 p.m.
11/17- vs West Florida 4:30 p.m.

Women's Basketball

11/17- vs Montevallo 12:00 p.m.
11/20- at Flagler 5:30 p.m.

Women's Volleyball

11/16- NCAA South Regional
11/17- NCAA South Regional

Swimming

11/17- at Tampa 11:00 a.m.
11/18- at Tampa 11:00 a.m.

Black Friday Cont'd

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-Follow the deals on the websites. Technology is a joy, and Black Friday purchases have gotten easier over the years since we can plan ahead of time of what to buy. Sign up to the newsletter of your favorite stores or follow them on social media. Stores offer deals to their social media fans that the regular public might not know about.

-Check out the best deals. This is one of the most important steps, analyze your options! Some stores have better deals than other ones; don't let the excitement overcome.

-Update profiles. Make sure your billing information is accurate, and that you remember your usernames and passwords. Remember, first come, first served!

Photo credit: @slickdeals

Best Buy's Black Friday ad is 52 pages long; don't miss out on all of the great tech deals they are offering this year!